

REMARKS

Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the ground that there is no undue burden on the Examiner to examine Groups I and II concurrently. According to the Examiner, Group I is "drawn to a method of inhibiting neutralizing antibodies . . . by administering the nucleic acid encoding the heterologous protein," while Group II is "drawn to a method of inhibiting neutralizing antibodies . . . by administering the heterologous protein."

Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

Applicant respectfully request examination on the merits of this application. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

February 26, 2002

Date



Ricardo J. Moran
Reg. No. 48,735

Foley & Lardner
3000 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
Tel: (202) 672-5300
Fax: (202) 672-5399